RICHMOND, VA., FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1906.

THE TIMES FOUNDED 1886.

WHOLE NUMBER 17,162

## OFFER TO LEASE

Men Associated With Mr. E. L. Bemiss Would Take Plant.

CITY GAS WORKS

#### LETTER WRITTEN SETS FORTH PLAN

Matter May Receive Consideration of Committees and Council-Lower Branch Against Lease, Though Board Has Not Taken Action.

First. The city will get free gas for

Second. It will receive interest on its own bonds, representing the cost of the plant.

Third. It will have cheaper gas for its citizens. Fourth, At the end of thirty years

k will receive back its plant, very greatly extended and improved, free from all liens, standing on its books as having cost it not one cent.

Above is briefly outlined the anticisated results of a proposition which cerain gentlemen in Richmond and clse the lease of the gas works more detailed account of which will found below, in a letter from Mr. E. s to Mr. Joseph Bryan.

In his letter, Mr. Bemiss, who, it represents capital ample to do oposes sets out that the propo sition is so clearly a business one tha

osition, which the interests he rep ents are anxious to make to the city unfident that as a business ques tion set fairly before & the city cannot afford to throw it overboard without

#### Letter of Mr. Bemiss.

Letter of Mr. Bemiss follows:

Richmond, Va., April II, 1996.
Mr. Joseph Bryan, Richmond, Va.:

My Dear Mr. Bryan, Flursoring further our conversation of this morning on the subject of municipal operation of the gas plant, it seems to me that ordinary business judgment should call for a further consideration of the subject before it is definitely disposed of.

The question is a business question, and involves no principle which can justify the Council in summarily rejecting

The question is a business question, and involves no principle which can justify the Council in summarily rejecting the proposition to lease the plant without even an opportunity of learning what terms might be proposed to it by responsible parties willing to make an offer to operate the plant for the city. It would be an unusual course for persons intending to make such an offer to make public the terms of the offer before an appropriate committee has been designated to whom such offer can be made. But if contemplation that such an opportunity would be given, a number of gentlemen of high standing in this commitmity, moved. I believe, entirely by public spirit, have been in conference with experienced parties, who are prepared to make an offer for the lease of the plant that will bring results of such unqualified benefit to the city, that if the details of the offer were known to the Council. I do not believe any member would feel he could refuse to permit his constituents at large to say for themselves whether they desired to accept the Will Well Be Guaranteed?

#### What Will Be Guaranteed?

The proposition of these gentlemen was organize a home company, through nom an offer would be made to operate

aults:
That the city should have, without cost, gas necessary for public light.
That the city should have in cash each year enough money to pay interest on the \$1,675,000 of bonds charged as the cost of the gas plant.
That the company would expend immediately all money necessary to put the plant in first-class condition to take care of its present and future business, estimated to be not less than \$750,000.

That the company, starting with the present charges for gas service, will, with the increased consumption of gas, systematically decrease the cost

gas, systematically decrease the cost of gas to the private consumer.

That the company will pay to the city annually such a sum of money, which, at 4 per cent, interest, compounded, would, at the end of thirty years, aggregate an amount sufficient to retire the \$150,000 bonds issued for improvements of the plant, and, in addition thereto, \$1.076,000 of the general bonds of the city, charged against the cost of the gas plant, returning the plant to the city in first-class condition and free from liens of any kind.

"Cost Not One Cent."

Summarizing, we have the following: First-The city will get free gas for its

nwn use.
Second—It will receive interest on its
nwn bonds, representing the cost of the Third-it will have cheaper gas for its

citizens.
Fourth-At the end of thirty years it

Fourth—At the end of thirty years it will receive back its plant, very greatly extended and improved, free from all fleus, standing on its books as having cost it not one cent.

Can it be that the Council of the city of Richmond, with the prospect of an offer such as this, will decline to give the voters of this city the opportunity of expressing their wishes?

Very truly,

(Signed)

Present Status

Present Status.

The status of the gas proposition at present, briefly stated, is that the lower branch of the Council has declared against either sale or lease, and has adopted a resolution calling upon the Light Committee to undertake the work of thorough rehabilitation. This resolution is on the table in the Board of Aldermen, and will be considered at a special meeting next Wednesday night.

# CHAMBER TAKES

Commercial Body Reiterates Its Position for Greater Docks.

#### MEMBERS TO WORK

on Treaty Between United States and Santo Domingo, and Development of Coal Lands.

attended quarterly meeting yesterday at ternoon, reiterated its unqualified ondorsement of the greater dock scheme passed resolutions calling for the immediate ratification of the treaty between the United States and Santo Domingo

diate ratification of the treaty between the United States and Santo Domingo, and appointed a committee to look into the question of developing coal fields lying in the vicinity of Richmond. The two inter propositions caused but little discussion, and were quickly disposed of.

The Santo Domingo matter came up in the form of a report from a subcommittee, of which Mr. F. D. Williams was chairman, and it was adopted practically without debate.

As to the coal question, a letter from Colonel Joseph W. Woolfolk, a mining engineer, was read bearing thereon, and after a brief speech by him, his suggestions were adopted and a committee named by the chair to hear Colonel Woolfolk further as to the matter.

The dock question caused a good deal of debate, but in the end the action taken was but a relteration of what has been formerly done on the subject.

A resolution was adopted, instructing the members on the Committee of Inland and Outward Trade to continue their efforts to get the Council to acquire the property, which has been suggested along the river front for the enlarged dock.

Aldermen Dabney and Blair were present, and upon invitation made brief addresses. Both are members of the Finance Committee. The latter voted for and the former against, the proposition in committee, but they both appeared in synapsity with the scheme when viewed from a business standpoint. Mr. Dabney said the question was one of education, and that the Chamber should keep up its fight before the Finance Committee.

Interests Imperiled.

Has Been Satisfactory.

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

# A STRONG STAND

#### ON COUNCILMEN

Body Favors Immediate Action

The Chamber of Commerce, at a largely

Report in Detail.

President Leigh called the meeting to order at 5:0 o'clock, and the grat business was the report of the Special Committee on Outward Trade, presented by Mr. F. D. Williams, chairman, favoing the immediate ratification of the treaty pending between the United States and Santo Domingo.

pending between the United States and Santo Domingo.

Following is the report in full:

A meeting of the Committee on Outward Trade of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce was held for the Richmond Chamber of Commerce was the committee on the Richmond Chamber of Commerce was the committee of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce was the constant of the Chamber of the Chamb

part of European Powers in the August 20 febrs which examined to their subjects, and the danger of grave international complications involving the United States government in the multienance of the Monroe doctrine. That the customs being the sole source of revenue, the selzure of the custom houses gave control of the government and was the chief incentive to revolutions, and that the admiration of the customs under the protection of the United States would, mean permanent peace.

The present modus vivendi was established to the United States for the Deminited Revertment to the United States for the purpose of insur-ging the proper collection and application of the customs, is per cent, to Santo Domingo

# If the operators should decline to entertain either of the propositions submitted by the minors to-day, it is probable a convention of miners will be called, at which the delegates will declare that a strike exists. Briefly stated, the offer made by President Mitchell was a resubmission of the miners' original demands, with two amendments, and in case they are not accepted, he proposes that the ghole controversy be placed before the strike commission. In one of the amendments to the original demands, President Mitchell drops the request for the recognition of the

OPERATORS WILL

Two Sides Appear Now to Have

Reached Limit of Nego-

tiations.

CONVENTION MAY BE CALLED

Owners Will Mean Declara-

tion of Strike.

(By Associated Press.)

levelops.. While there is still hope that a peace

YIELD NOTHING

Man on Trolley Becomes Insane From Sudden Attack of Hydrophobia.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) AUGUSTA, GA., April 12,--James Howard, claiming New York as his home became insane from a sudden attack of hydrophobia on an Aiken, S. C., trolley car about seven miles from the city to night. He was on his way to Charles ton, S. C., where he was going to seek treatment, having been bitten by a mad dog while near Midvale, Ga., ten days

Following the attack he became unmanageable, seeking to bits every one who came near him, frothing at the mouth and having other indications of hydrophobia poisoning. In attempting to put him off the car, Conductor Jones was bitten on the hand. The madman was finally thrown down and chloroformed, and then removed to the home of a physician. While on the car Howard attacked everything in reach with his teeth, even chewing up some broken glass he found upon the floor.

## PRAISES OF KAISER

Delivers Brief But Important Address to Party of Germans

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, April 12,—Ambassador
Speck von Sternberg, of Germany, to-day
presented to President Roosevelt a delegation of about fifty officers, ex-soldiers
and veterans of the German army. Many
of them now are American citizens

The President embraced the opportunity to deliver a brief but important speech to his callers. In his remarks he made reference to the Algedras conference, which recently was successfully concluded. He extended to the German emperor hearty personal felicitations, and congratulated the emperor and the German people on the work accomplished at Algedras. He expressed the belief that the result of the convention would be to render the more friendly the relations between the two mighty powers—Germany and France. The President also safd:

Germany and France. The President also said:

"The fies that unite Germany and the Variable of Var

#### EASTER EDITION.

The Easter edition of The Times-Dispatch to be printed on Sunday will surpass any ever issued in Virginia. The beautiful sentiment of this joy-gus season will be emphasized in an-tistic pictures, poems and special ar-ticles. The Easter spirit will also be found in the Womains Page, the Chil-dren's Page, the Children and other regular departments.

in addition to the special Easter features, the regular departments will be up to the highest standard. The demand for this edition will be large, and news dealers and others are urged to send their orders in early.

Final Declination on Part of the union and provides that the proposed agreement be made between the operators and the anthracite mine workers, instead of the United Mine Yorkers of America. The other amendment provides that only employes who are willing shall be assessed a certain sum each month to defray the expenses of carrying out the proposed check off agreement, instead of union and non-union men being called upon to contribute. (By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, April 12.—At the meeting of the subcommittees of the anthracite mine workers and operators here to-day, the representatives of the employes offered the mine owners the choice of two propositions in their endeavor to come to an amleable agreement, and the employers made an informal reply, in which they intimated that they are not likely to accept either of the wage workers offers, and said they could not modify their propositions. The operators will make an official answer to the miners later proposition by letter, and there will be no further meetings until something develops.

#### NOT TO MOVE SEABOARD OFFICES, BARR WRITES

(By Associated Press.)

SAVANNAH, GA., April 12—A commit-tee of the Savannah Chamber of Com-merce that was appointed to present the advantages of this city to the officials of the Scaboard Air Line and seek to have the general office of the company located here received to-day a letter from Presi-dent J. M. Barr, stating that the general offices of the company, which are at Portsmouth, Va., will not be moved, While there is still nope that a personal to the controversy will be found, the meeting to-day did not bring the contending parties closer together; in fact, they appear to have almost reached the limit of their importations. If the operators should decline to entertain either of the propositions submitted

#### THE ROOSEVELTS TO BE AT PINE KNOT EASTER

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
SCOTTSVILLE, VA., April 12.—President Roosevelt and family will spend Easter at Pine Knot, arriving Sunday.
The servants from Pinindealing have been making ready for their coming, and giving the little lodge a thorough spring cleaning.

Mr. Wallace Here,

Honorable E. P. Wallace, of Lunenburg, one of the most popular members of the house of Delegates, is in the city on privile business.

#### ORGANIZATION FOR THE WEATHER

Forecast: Virginia-Partly cloudy Fri-day; Saturday, rain; winds becoming east north Carolina-Pair Friday; Saturday, rain; cooler in west portion; fresh east winds.

Conditions Yesterday.	
Richmond's weather was blear a	ně
Warmi, Panige of 16 6 P. Al	6
3 P. M68 12 midnight (Average50 2-3.)	, ,5
Highest temperature yesterday Lowest temperature yesterday Mean temperature yesterday	7
Mean temperature yesteria; Normal temperature for April Departure from normal temperature	. D
Doparture from normal temperature.	A

(At S P. M., Eastern Time.)	7701
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## BACK TO THE OLD SWEETHEART! EMPORIA TO BE

One of the Biggest Fights Over Liceuse That Ever Took Place in Virginia. ...

#### LICENSES UNDER RESTRICTION

Leading Thoroughfare Between Two Depots Unsuitable Place

to Sell Liquor.

One of the most hotly contested fights over liquor license that ever occurred in Virginia was closed at Emporia, Greens ville county, yesterday before the Circuit Court, Judge J. E. West presiding. Eight lawyers were engaged in the cases, and three hours a side was allowed for argument.

Over forty witnesses were examined, and the town was stirred from center to circumference by the contest, which was waged for more than a week.

The two main points at Issue was the The two main points at issue was the clearing of Baker Street, the principal thoroughfare leading from the Atlantic Coast Line depot, to the Southern depot, a distance of several blocks, of all liquor saling within a certain distance of the Ashby Cotton Mill, a large manufactory, completing many hunds employing many hands

The Counsel.

The liquor applicants were represented by Buford and Egglesten, of Lawrence-ville, and Messrs. Palmer and Southall. The dry element were represented by Thomas Whitehead, of Lynchburg, Judge Samuel Goodwin and Mr. Tredway, of Roydton, and Captain Walker, of Southampton, These represented various interests, which were resisting the granting of licenses, and one day during the time Mr. P. B. Davis, of Petersburg, was (Continued on Second Page.)

## FOUND GUILTY OF CONSPIRACY

Be Sentenced In Savannah To-Day.

#### MESSAGE TO ERWIN FROM PRESIDENT

District Attorney Congratulated Upon Final Success in Case That Has Dragged Through Many Years-Court Disposed to Be Lenient As Possible.

(By Associated Press.)
SAVANNAII, GA., April 12.—Benjamin D. Greene and John F. Gaynor were found guilty of conspiracy against the government, presenting false claims and embezzlement in the Federal Court for the Southern District of Georgia to-day, and to-morrow Judge Emory Speer will pass sentence upon them.

The defendants were found guilty with no recommendation, upon each of the indictments. The verdict was returned a few minutes before 2 o'clock, after the jury had been out three hours and a half.

#### Long Drawn Out.

For fourteen weeks the case had been in progress and there was the stillness of the tomb in the court-room as Judge Speer asked the jury if they had agreed upon a verilet. Foreman Hope Thomas answered in the affirmative, and the three

answered in the affirmative, and the three indictments were taken and the findings read by the clerk. The jury, at the request of the counsel for the defense, was then polled and each member stated that the verdicts rendered upon the indictments were his.

The maximum sentence that the courts may impose under the law is an aggregate term of seventeen years in the penitentiary and a fine of \$555,000, the amount of the alleged embezzlement. The minimum sentence permissible under the law is two years in the penitentiary and a fine of \$1,000. Before adjournment until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, when the sentence will be pronounced, Judge Speer said:

Speer said;
"I have no disposition towards these unfortunate men except to be just as mereiful as my duty under the law will

Judge Thanks Jury.

Judge Thanks Jury.

The clerk read to the court a communication from the jury, in which the members tendered their heartfelt thanks to the court, the attorneys on both sides, the marshal and the other officers of the court for the kindly consideration shown them and the manner in which they had prided for their comfort and welfare. Judge Speer, in reply, thanked the jury, and sald:

"Since it is true that no jury in the United States, perhaps in this century, has had an ordeal more severe than yours, surely also it is true that you have rendered a service more likely to be of benefit to the people of this great republic in the future. This court, wishes to thank you which all-his heart for the manner in which you have performed your duty. Wishing you godspeed, a safe return to your homes and families, a long life and much happiness, you are discharged by the court."

The defense's counsel will not discuss the next steps to be taken in the case, nor will District Attorney Marion Erwin say what will be done regarding the indictinents against Oberlin M. Carter, Michael A. Connolly, William T. and Edward F. Gaynor, who were jointly indicted with the defendants convicted today.

Mr. Erwin this afternoon received a

Mr. Erwin this afternoon received a Mr. Erwin this atternoon received a telegram from Attorney-General Moody expressing the congratulations of the President and the Attorney-General upon the outcome of the case, upon which Mr. Erwin has been engaged for seven years.

History of Case.

The trial of Messrs, Greene and Gaynor consumed about fourteen weeks. The defendants were charged with conspiracy to defraud the government and embezzlement in connection with the big government, the beginning the control of the results of the re rement tenhering works in this vicinity. They were indicted in 1903, and after aghting extradition proceedings in New York fled to Canada. After lengthy proceedings there they were finally extradited and were brought to Savannah for trial, Captain Oberlin M. Carter, of the engineer corps, who had charge of the improvement works under Greene and Captain contributions. improvement works under Green, and Caynor contract, was court-martialed for his compilely in the alleged frauds, and was sentenced to be dishonorably discharged from the army and to serve a term of imprisonment for five years.

### LAND DESOLATE HUNDREDS DEAD

Greene and Gaynor To King of Italy Watches Removal of Bodies From the Ruins.

#### NEWS FROM VOLCANO IS MORE ASSURING

Princess of Schleswig-Holstein Forced to Walk Twelve Miles Through Three Feet of Ashes-Editor of Century De-

scribes Scene.

NAPLES, April 12.-While the news from Mount Vesuvius to-day is reassuring, the conditions here in Naples are such as make it difficult to realize that conditions are actually better. The wind is blowing from the volcano toward Naples, carrying the ashes in this direction. Towards evening the fall of ashes and cinders here was worse than at any time since the cruption began.

The scenic effects vary from hour to hour. Now in the north the sky is chodolate-colored, lowering and heavy, under

hour. Now in the north the sky is chocolate-colored, lowering and heavy, under which men and women, with their hair and clothing covered with ashes, move about like gray ghosts. Fort San Martino, as it towers above the town, can only just be seen, while Dastel Dell'Ovo is boldly marked in light seeming like silver against the brown sky.

Terrible Scene.

To the south beyond the smake zone.

To the south, beyond the smoke zene, lies smiling, sunny Poslilpo and its pen-insula, while far away glistens the sea, a deep blue, on which the Islands seem

to float in the glow of the setting sun. Adding to the strange picture, one of the French men-of-war, which arrived in the Bay of Naples to-day, is so placed as to be half in the glow and half obscured by the balt of falling ashes.

At the observatory of Mount Vesuvius, where Director Matteucel is continuing bis work in behalf of science and humanity, the scene is one of great impressiveness. To reach the observatory one must walk for miles over hardened, but hot laya covered with sand, until he comes to a point whence nothing can be seen but vast great reaches, sometimes flat and sometimes gathered into huge mounds, which take on semblances of human faces. Above, the heavens are huge mounds, which take on semblances of human faces. Above, the heavens are gray, like earth beneath, and seem just as hard and immovable. In all this tonely waste there is no sign of life or-vegetation, and no sound is heard except the low mutterings of the volcano. One seems almost impelled to scream about to break the horrible stillness of a land seemingly forgotten both by God and man.

Visit of King.

Every day that passes gives new evidence of the magnitude of the cutastrophe. To-day's visit of King Victor Emmanuel to Ottajano revealed new

Emmanuel to Ottajano revealed new tragedies. At a certain point His Ma-jesty was obliged to abandon his motor

jesty was obliged to abandon his motor car and went forward on horsebrack amid constant danger, his horse floundering through four feet of ashes, stumbling the holes, blinded by the fall of large cenders and the target for balling basaltic masses.

In the presence of the King, one hundred and twenty-nine more bodies were extricated from the ruins, the white ashes and red sand falling as though they were determined not to relinquish their victims. The dead at Ottajano are said to number 550.

The King was deathly paid. To a griest

The King was deathly pair. To a pries who came to him, he said: "How did you "I put myself in safety," replied the

priest. "What do you mean?" asked the King.

"What do you mean?" asked the King.
"Realizing the danger," was the priest's reply, "I by d left for Noia."
The King flushed with anger.
"What?" he cried. "You, a minister of God, were not here to share the danger of your people and administer the last sacraments? You did very wrong."

#### Queen in Hospitals.

Queen lielena was with the King when he started for Ottajano, but she was obliged to turn back, as the task was one not suitable for a woman. She spent the most of the day in visiting the injured in Naples hospituls and inspecting the housing provided for refugees.

The Princess of Schleswig-Holstein set out in her automobile this morning to visit the hospituls in the desolated towns, but after a time the motor car became disabled, and she was forced to return on foot a distance of tweive miles, walking the distance through three feet of ashes. The Princess' endurance surprised the Neapolitans, some of whom declared that she must have been aided by the saints, for never before hall a woman accomplished such a task.

There have been a largo number of robberies of deserted houses, in spite of the efforts of the authorities to protect property.

In the excited condition of the populiace there is some difficulty in preserving criter. The closing of a church at Tore Annunziata which was considered to be ureafe, precipitated a small riot.

Destruction of Houses.

#### Destruction of Houses.

Destruction of Houses.

The latest reports show that 23 houses have been damaged at Portico, at San Glovanni and Teducelo; 432 at Resina and Lose at Torre dei Greco. It is impossible to determine the exact number of taildings demolished at Torre Antoniata. It is estimated that about 5.00 houses in all have been partly or entirely destroyed. In the villages on the Ottojano side of the mountain all the houses are damaged. At Nola desolution reigns, the place having been almost entirely abandoned.

#### DESOLATE SCENE AROUND VOLCANO

BY ROBERT U. JOHNSON, Written for Associated Press by associate editor of Century Magazine, Now in Naples.

Now in Naples.

NAPLES, April 12.—"Since the Chicago fire, I have seen nothing so terribly incessive. Twenty years will not repair the damage, including the destruction of four whole villages. We had a magnificent view of the gruption, eight miles away. Rising at an

#### PRESIDENT WARM IN BIT PASSENGERS ON CAR; CHEWED UP GLASS

The President embraced the opportunity

Conditions in Important Cities.

r loudy

April 13, 1906, HIGH TIDE.

Morning...... 7:50 Evening..... 8:23

were elected:
Ben. L. Jones, president of the Macon
Automobile Club, president,
Frank C. Battey, president of the Sayannah Automobile Club, first vice-presicloudy cloudy car cloudy

#### GOOD ROADS IN SOUTH Southern Motorists Federation Found Yesterday-Line From Richmond to Jacksonville.

ATLANTIC BEACH, FLA. April 12 .--Those interested in the building of good roads throughout the South, especially main trunk line from Richmond to Jacksonville, met in an enthusiastic session here to-day and perfected the organization of the Southern Motorists' Federation. The meeting was largely attended, and

(By Associated Press.)

every one present took part in the discussion of the different questions raised. The following officers and directors

Joseph Bryan, editor of The Richmond Joseph Dryan, enfor of the Reemand Times-Dispatch, second vice-president, George W. Vanderbilt, of Asheville, N. C., third vice-president, W. R. Ranney, second vice-president of Jacksonville Automobile and Motor

Boat Club, secretary,

#### Judges Render Decision in Baltimore-Relations Will Probably Take Appeal. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BALTIMORE, MD., April 12.-Judge

VIRGINIA COURTS

SEND RHEA WILL TO

Plock, Gaither and Dunn, in the Orphans Court here to-day decided that the will of Mrs. Columbia Rhea, of Norfolk, Va. which was offered for probate in the local court by Mrs. Rhea's relatives, should go to George M. Dillard, of Norfolk, the executor, to be offered for probate in Virginia. Mrs. Rhea left all her estate, valued at nearly \$100,000, to Randolph-Macon College, at Ashland, Va., to be used, in educating men for the Methodist munistry.

Mrs. Rhea was burned to death or
Mrs. Rhea was burned to death or

ministry.

Mrs. Rhea was burned to death on March 1st at the home of her sister, Mrs. Martha Bridger, No. 1615 East Baltimore Street, and recently her will was offered for probate by her relatives.

It is against the law in Maryland, except by a special act of the Legislature, to bequeath one's entire estate to any institution, as Mrs. Rhea did; hence by offering the will for probate here, the relatives hoped to receive part of her estate under this law. The relatives will appeal to the Court of Appelas and may also file a caveat.